

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 697

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the training of health professions students with respect to the identification and referral of victims of domestic violence, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 6 (legislative day, APRIL 5), 1995

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BRADLEY, and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the training of health professions students with respect to the identification and referral of victims of domestic violence, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Domestic Violence
5 Identification and Referral Act of 1995”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT, FOR CERTAIN HEALTH PROFES-**
2 **SIONS PROGRAMS, OF PROVISIONS REGARD-**
3 **ING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

4 (a) TITLE VII PROGRAMS; PREFERENCES IN FINAN-
5 CIAL AWARDS.—Section 791 of the Public Health Service
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 295j) is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
8 section (d); and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following sub-
10 section:

11 “(c) PREFERENCES REGARDING TRAINING IN IDEN-
12 TIFICATION AND REFERRAL OF VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
13 VIOLENCE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a health pro-
15 fessions entity specified in paragraph (2), the Sec-
16 retary shall, in making awards of grants or contracts
17 under this title, give preference to any such entity
18 (if otherwise a qualified applicant for the award in-
19 volved) that has in effect the requirement that, as a
20 condition of receiving a degree or certificate (as ap-
21 plicable) from the entity, each student have had sig-
22 nificant training in carrying out the following func-
23 tions as a provider of health care:

24 “(A) Identifying victims of domestic vio-
25 lence, and maintaining complete medical
26 records that include documentation of the ex-

1 amination, treatment given, and referrals made,
2 and recording the location and nature of the
3 victim's injuries.

4 “(B) Examining and treating such victims,
5 within the scope of the health professional's dis-
6 cipline, training, and practice, including, at a
7 minimum, providing medical advice regarding
8 the dynamics and nature of domestic violence.

9 “(C) Referring the victims to public and
10 nonprofit private entities that provide services
11 for such victims.

12 “(2) RELEVANT HEALTH PROFESSIONS ENTI-
13 TIES.—For purposes of paragraph (1), a health pro-
14 fessions entity specified in this paragraph is any en-
15 tity that is a school of medicine, a school of osteo-
16 pathic medicine, a graduate program in mental
17 health practice, a school of nursing (as defined in
18 section 853), a program for the training of physician
19 assistants, or a program for the training of allied
20 health professionals.

21 “(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2
22 years after the date of the enactment of the Domes-
23 tic Violence Identification and Referral Act of 1995,
24 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
25 Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the

1 Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the
2 Senate, a report specifying—

3 “(A) the health professions entities that
4 are receiving preference under paragraph (1);

5 “(B) the number of hours of training re-
6 quired by the entities for purposes of such
7 paragraph;

8 “(C) the extent of clinical experience so re-
9 quired; and

10 “(D) the types of courses through which
11 the training is being provided.

12 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
13 section, the term ‘domestic violence’ includes behav-
14 ior commonly referred to as domestic violence, sexual
15 assault, spousal abuse, woman battering, partner
16 abuse, child abuse, elder abuse, and acquaintance
17 rape.”.

18 (b) TITLE VIII PROGRAMS; PREFERENCES IN FI-
19 NANCIAL AWARDS.—Section 860 of the Public Health
20 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 298b–7) is amended by adding at
21 the end the following subsection:

22 “(f) PREFERENCES REGARDING TRAINING IN IDEN-
23 TIFICATION AND REFERRAL OF VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC
24 VIOLENCE.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a health pro-
2 fessions entity specified in paragraph (2), the Sec-
3 retary shall, in making awards of grants or contracts
4 under this title, give preference to any such entity
5 (if otherwise a qualified applicant for the award in-
6 volved) that has in effect the requirement that, as a
7 condition of receiving a degree or certificate (as ap-
8 plicable) from the entity, each student have had sig-
9 nificant training in carrying out the following func-
10 tions as a provider of health care:

11 “(A) Identifying victims of domestic vio-
12 lence, and maintaining complete medical
13 records that include documentation of the ex-
14 amination, treatment given, and referrals made,
15 and recording the location and nature of the
16 victim’s injuries.

17 “(B) Examining and treating such victims,
18 within the scope of the health professional’s dis-
19 cipline, training, and practice, including, at a
20 minimum, providing medical advice regarding
21 the dynamics and nature of domestic violence.

22 “(C) Referring the victims to public and
23 nonprofit private entities that provide services
24 for such victims.

1 “(2) RELEVANT HEALTH PROFESSIONS ENTI-
2 TIES.—For purposes of paragraph (1), a health pro-
3 fessions entity specified in this paragraph is any en-
4 tity that is a school of nursing or other public or
5 nonprofit private entity that is eligible to receive an
6 award described in such paragraph.

7 “(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2
8 years after the date of the enactment of the Domes-
9 tic Violence Identification and Referral Act of 1995,
10 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
11 Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the
12 Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the
13 Senate, a report specifying—

14 “(A) the health professions entities that
15 are receiving preference under paragraph (1);

16 “(B) the number of hours of training re-
17 quired by the entities for purposes of such
18 paragraph;

19 “(C) the extent of clinical experience so re-
20 quired; and

21 “(D) the types of courses through which
22 the training is being provided.

23 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
24 section, the term ‘domestic violence’ includes behav-
25 ior commonly referred to as domestic violence, sexual

- 1 assault, spousal abuse, woman battering, partner
- 2 abuse, child abuse, elder abuse, and acquaintance
- 3 rape.”.

